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SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 52

NENE BAALSTAD

JANUARY 29, 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 427]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 427) for the relief of Nene Baalstad, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Nene Baalstad. The bill provides for an appropriate quota deduction and for the payment of the required visa fee and head tax.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 52-year-old native and citizen of Norway who entered the United States on December 15, 1947, as a visitor. She is an opera singer and voice teacher, and it is stated that her services would be of great value in this field. She has no close relatives in Norway, but has numerous relatives in the United States.

A letter dated August 24, 1950, to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to S. 2983, which was a bill introduced in the Eighty-first Congress for the relief of the same alien, reads as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Washington, August 24, 1950.

Hon. PAT McCARRAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice concerning the bill (S. 2983) for the relief of Nene Baalstad, an alien.

The bill would provide that Nene Baalstad shall be considered to have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence as of the date of her last entry into the United States, upon payment of the required head tax and visa fee. The bill would further direct the Secretary of State to instruct the quota-control officer to deduct one number from the appropriate immigration quota.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that Nene Baalstad is a native and citizen of Norway, having been born in Halden, Norway, on September 19, 1898. She first arrived in the United States at New Orleans, La., on December 15, 1947, when she was admitted as a temporary visitor for 6 months under section 3 (2) of the Immigration Act of 1924. During May 1948, she twice departed to Canada for the purpose of making application for a quota immigration visa at the American consulate, Vancouver, Canada. She reentered at Blaine, Wash., each time, to resume her original visitor's status. The alien has been granted several extensions of her temporary stay, the last of which expires on January 22, 1950, and she was subsequently given until March 15, 1950, within which to depart from the United States.

Miss Baalstad, who is not married, has no close relatives in Norway, her parents being deceased. Since her arrival in this country she has been visiting with one of her two cousins who reside in Chicago, Ill., and is being supported by this relative and friends. The alien testified that she is an opera singer and voice teacher by occupation, and that she desired to take voice lessons in Chicago.

The quota for Norway, to which Miss Baalstad is chargeable, is oversubscribed and an immigration visa is not readily obtainable. The record presents no facts, however, which would justify granting her an exemption from the requirements of the immigration laws. In recent years, many aliens have entered the United States as temporary visitors and thereafter endeavor to remain permanently. The enactment of special legislation in Miss Baalstad's behalf would undoubtedly encourage others, in whose cases immigration visas are not readily obtainable, to seek exemption from the general immigration laws.

Accordingly, the Department of Justice is unable to recommend enactment of the bill.

Yours sincerely,

PEYTON FORD,
Deputy Attorney General.

Senator Alexander Wiley has submitted the following information with reference to the beneficiary of the bill.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 18, 1950.

HON. PAT McCARRAN,
*Chairman the Senate Judiciary Committee,
Washington, D. C.:*

In connection with the bill, S. 2983, I hereby am submitting the following information in regard to the questionnaire:

Question No. 1

I arrived to the United States of America on the Norwegian motor yacht *Stella Polaris* of Bergen on December 15, 1947, at the port of New Orleans on a visitor's visa. While visiting my relatives in Seattle I made two trips up to Canada. The last one was one of the first days of May 1948. Can't tell the exact day, as my passport is at the immigration office here in Chicago.

Question No. 2

Since I arrived in the United States I have been visiting and living with relatives and friends in Los Angeles, Calif., San Francisco, Calif., Seattle, Wash., Chicago, Ill., Sturgeon Bay, Wis., Philadelphia, Pa., and New York. I have 4 aunts and uncles here in the United States, 12 first cousins, and lots of second cousins and friends. At present time I am living with some friends here in Chicago. I also have been studying different vocal teachers' voice training at the different places I have been visiting.

Question No. 3

I am supported by relatives of mine here in the United States.

Question No. 4

Answer is "No." I desired to come to this country in 1940 following the death of my mother (my father having previously died), but occupation of that country by German troops prevented this. I was the only child and have no closer kin than my relatives here in this country.

Question No. 5
Answer is "No."

Sincerely,

NENE BAALSTAD.

WISCONSIN COLLEGE OF MUSIC,
Milwaukee, Wis., November 4, 1950.

Senator ALEXANDER WILEY,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

HON. SENATOR WILEY: The Wisconsin College of Music is vitally interested in obtaining Madame Nene Baalstad for its voice faculty. Because of the tremendous musical background which she has, we feel that Milwaukee would benefit most greatly by having her abilities available to the students of the city.

Anything you can do to make it possible for the college to employ her will be greatly appreciated.

Thanking you for your kind consideration in this matter, and hoping it will be favorably decided, we are

Respectfully,

ERVING MANTEY, *Musical Director.*

THE CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC,
Philadelphia Pa., June 17, 1949.

To Whom It May Concern:

This will introduce Mme. Nene Baalstad, opera singer and voice teacher.

I knew Mme. Baalstad as an artist and friend for many years when she lived in Europe. She is a magnificent artist and teacher. I have had the opportunity to hear her students in concert in Oslo, and all showed excellent artistry and vocal development.

I recommend her very highly and I am sure it would be a great asset to any musical institution to have her on the faculty.

Sincerely yours,

MARION LEKELY FRESCHL,
Head of Voice Department.

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
Chicago, Ill., May 24, 1950.

HON. ALEXANDER WILEY,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR WILEY: I am writing you in behalf of Miss Nene Baalstad, whose Senate bill for permission to remain permanently in the United States is now pending.

Miss Baalstad, now a resident of Chicago, has become a member of the Fourth Presbyterian Church, coming to us from the Lutheran Church of Norway. She is an earnest Christian, faithful to her church, and has made many friends.

Miss Baalstad is a trained singer and is desirous, upon being granted permission to remain in the United States, of becoming affiliated with one of our music schools as a teacher, thus making a contribution to the life of our country through her musical talents.

I sincerely believe that Miss Baalstad would make an excellent citizen and I encourage you to seek passage of the Senate bill in her behalf.

Sincerely yours,

HARRISON RAY ANDERSON, *Pastor.*

STURGEON BAY, WIS., August 11, 1950.

Senator ALEXANDER WILEY,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR WILEY: I am very much interested in seeing, if possible, that Nene Baalstad be permitted to remain in this country and to make it her permanent residence.

I have been acquainted with her since she first came to Sturgeon Bay approximately 2 years ago. She is a woman of very splendid character, has a great deal

of ability and in my humble opinion would be an asset to the Government as well as to the people of this country.

I understand that you have introduced a bill to help her, if possible, to obtain legal entry to this country and to obtain permanent residence here. I would greatly appreciate it and I know many persons in this community would also appreciate it very much if you would use your very best effort to have this bill passed, as I am sure you will.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would advise me as to what progress has been made. However, understand from your last letter that the Attorney General's office has received some information from the Immigration and Naturalization Service and will make recommendations to the committee. I do not know what the recommendations might be, but at any rate I do know that Miss Baalstad has received some very splendid letters of recommendation from many people in this country and is very highly recommended by the Chicago Conservatory, University of California, and the Curtis Institute of Music and has the original letters to substantiate this fact.

You may rest assured that anything you will do will be appreciated by many people in this community.

Thanking you very much I am,

Yours very truly,

EDWARD G. MINOR,
Attorney at Law.

THE CHICAGO CONSERVATORY,
Chicago 5, Ill., November 13, 1950.

Senator ALEXANDER WILEY,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR WILEY: I understand that action has been reopened on your bill, S. 2983, regarding Miss Nene Baalstad, a citizen of Norway, who desires permission to remain in this country to establish American citizenship.

While Miss Baalstad is listed on our faculty as an opera coach, we have been deterred from employing her service due to the controls imposed by her present visa. We feel that the addition of Nene Baalstad's name to the roster of fine singers and teachers in America would be a valuable asset to both cultural and educational life. She has a distinguished background and extensive experience in music and doubtless would fill a special place here in our own great country.

I trust your bill, S. 2983, for Miss Baalstad may be approved. Her record during her stay in this country for the past 4 years is evidence of her desire to become a loyal American citizen.

Very truly yours,

JEANNE HOWARD, *Registrar.*

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 427) should be enacted.

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